

CES Environmental Services, Inc. Site Proposed Removal Action

Harris County
Houston, Texas

August 2014

This Fact Sheet will tell you about...

- Background Information
- Potential Threats to Public Health and Welfare
- What to Expect
- For More Information

Background Information

The CES Environmental Services Site is a former chemical recycling facility that filed for bankruptcy in 2010 and is under the control of a Trustee appointed by the Bankruptcy Court. The Site has recently experienced vandalism which has resulted in the spillage of chemicals and waste to the ground surface and the adjacent residential neighborhood. These spill responses were addressed by the Estate, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and the EPA. The Estate currently has been attempting to clean up the property and sell it to recover assets. The site consists of approximately 11 vacuum boxes, two roll-off boxes, 12 frac tanks, two Tanker Trailers, 20 above ground storage tanks (ASTs), 15 waste water treatment tanks, waste piles, and numerous totes, vats, drums, and smaller containers.

The Site is located at 4904 Griggs Road, Houston, Harris County, Texas. Other contiguous properties associated with the site are 4900 Griggs Road and 5910 Wayland Street. The Site is surrounded by residential, educational, and commercial properties

Potential Threats to Public Health and Welfare

There are numerous chemical containers located on-site that have not been actively managed or secured to prevent releases to the environment since prior to August 2010. Additionally, the soil areas of the Site have not been investigated, but are expected to be contaminated as a result of historic operations, as well as recent chemical spills from vandalism.

The contaminants of concern include: benzene, creosol, 2,4,6-Trichlorophenol, pH, MEK and 1,2-Dichloroethane. There is also a concern that two of the facilities pose a threat of ignitability.

The Site fencing has been repaired to remove open access to the facility, but fencing in some areas is still not in the acceptable condition. Regardless of the condition, trespassers removed fence panels to gain access, so the current fencing is not an effective deterrent to restrict access.

Releases from stored containers have occurred and are likely to continue should not action be taken. Releases from these containers could easily result in exposures to the surrounding population.

Weather conditions could also impact the Site due to its proximity to the Texas Gulf Coast, causing a release into water systems that drain into the Houston Ship Channel and Gulf of Mexico.

And finally, because the Site is abandoned, making it subject to arson. Even lightning strikes or mixing of incompatible wastes could result in fire or explosion. A fire or explosion would result in a potential inhalation exposure to the surrounding populations as well as a wide spread evacuation of the area.

What to Expect During the Next Month

The EPA expects to initiate a removal action upon approval of the Action Memorandum. It is expected that the removal process will last approximately **two to three months**. CERCLA funds will be utilized for all removal actions, which include:

- Removal/disposal of chemicals
- Decontaminating chemical jars, pails, drums, totes, vats, and other containers and disposing/recycling as determined necessary
- Decontaminating portable containers, above ground storage tanks, vacuum boxes, roll-off boxes, frac tanks, and other bulk storage containers and disposing/recycling as determined necessary
- Removing/disposing of visible chemical spillage to soil and other surfaces
- Removing/disposing of contaminated and/or non-contaminated debris

For More Information

If you would like more information about the CES
Environmental Services Removal Action, contact:

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